

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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COPENHAGEN HOLD FOR MCGUIRE

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, NL, GR

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER ANSWERS PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS ON
GREECE

1. SUMMARY: FONMIN VAN DER STOEL TOLD SECOND CHAMBER JUNE 7 GON
HAD NOT RECEIVED REQUEST FROM KING CONSTANTINE TO DEFER RECOG-
NITION OF NEW REPUBLIC REGIME IN GREECE. FONMIN, WHO REFUSED
TO ELABORATE ON STANDPOINT GON WOULD ADOPT TOWARD GREEK REGIME,
SAID HE PREFERRED " POSSIBLY USEFUL STEPS TO SPECTACULAR GESTURES
WHICH MAY BE HARMFUL." END SUMMARY.

2. FONMIN VAN DER STOEL APPEARED IN SECOND CHAMBER JUNE 7 TO
ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM RADICAL PARTY FLOOR LEADER BAS DE GAAY
FORTMAN AND HIS COLLEAGUE WALTMANS ON GON'S ATTITUDE TO NEW REPUB-
LICAN REGIME IN GREECE. SESSION WITH VAN DER STOEL CAME DAY AFTER
PRIMIN DEN UYL AS ACTING FONMIN TOLD RADICALS (IN REPLY TO WRITTEN
QUESTION) GON HAD NO PLANS TO RECALL DUTCH AMBASSADOR TO ATHENS
AND WOULD CONTINUE CONSULTATIONS WITH ALLIES ON BEST WAY TO
ENSURE THAT GREEK GOVT WOULD " REINSTITUTE DEMOCRACY AND RESPECT
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FOR FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS". RADICALS ASKED FONMIN WHETHER EXILED GREEK KING HAD ASKED GON NOT TO RECOGNIZE PAPADOPOULOS AS PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT. VAN DER STOEL SAID NO. HE NOTED HE HAD READ IN PRESS EXILED KING HAD SAID THIS WAS MATTER FOR EACH GOT TO DECIDE FOR ITSELF. NOR DID HE HAVE ANY INDICATIONS PROVISIONAL GOVT IN EXILE UNDER KARAMANLIS WAS IN THE OFFING. VAN DER STOEL REFUSED TO GO INTO DETAIL ON POSITION GON WOULD ADOPT VIS- A- VIS NEW REPUBLICAN GOVT IN GREECE SAYING QUIET DIPLOMACY WAS MORE USEFUL THAN SPECTACULAR STUNTS. FONMIN REITERATED GON' S POSITION THAT RECOGNITION OF REGIMES DID NOT INDICATE APPROVAL AND STRESSED GON, IN CONCERT WITH ALLIES, WOULD WORK FOR ESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY IN GREECE. ON MORE PERSONAL NOTE HE STATED THAT, IN VIEW OF HIS PAST RECORD, HE CERTAINLY DID NOT HAVE TO BE LECTURED ON PROBLEMS IN GREECE.

3. COMMENT: VAN DER STOEL' S FORCEFUL BUT LOW KEY EXPOSITION OF GON' S POSITION ON GREEK QUESTION WON HIM PARISE FROM MFA ESTABLISHMENT. DIRECTOR WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFS REININK TOLD POL - COUNS JUNE 7 HE HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY VAN DER STOEL' S COMMITMENT TO QUIET DIPLOMACY. AS YET THERE HAS BEEN NO CRITICISM OF VAN DER STOEL' S POSITION BY MEMBERS OF HIS OWN PARTY, MANY OF WHOM ARE INCESSED BY THE PPR' S DECISION TO PUSH THIS PARTICULAR NON- ISSUE SOON AFTER THE NEW GOVT TOOK OFFICE. INDEED QUESTION OF GREEK REGIME IN YESTERDAY' S PARLIAMENTARY DISCUSSION WAS OF CONSIDERABLY LESS IMPORTANCE THAN DOMESTIC IMPLICATIONS OF LEFT WING DISUNITY AT VERY BEGINNING OF LIFE OF NEW GOVT. MIDDENDORF

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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